may be inriched with from your indefatigable Labours. I have not at preſent to add, but to beg you would perſuade yourſelf, that no Employ can be deemed more honourable, than in your Commands, by

SIR,

Newcaſtle, Feb. 9. 167$\frac{3}{4}$. *Your humble Servant*,

J. Durant.

XI. *A Letter from* James Parſons, *M. D. F. R. S. to the* Preſident; *ſerving to introduce a Remark from* John Milner, *Eſq*; *concerning the burying of the* Cows, *dead of the preſent reigning* Diſtemper, *in Lime or not.*

SIR,

Read June 12. 1746. WHEN the Means for preventing the Infection among the Cattle were under Conſideration, Burying them was thought the moſt effectual Method to hinder its Progreſs; and, by way of Improvement to this Project, the Addition of Lime was imagined neceſſary, for the more ſpeedy Deſtruction of the diſtemper'd Carcaſes. But ſome Doubts ariſing, whether the Lime might not exalt the putrid Particles, and help to ſpread the Infection, it was the Opinion of ſeveral of the Learned, that it was moſt ſafe, on that account, to bury them without it.

This

This Difference will probably be decided by the incloſed Account of Cattle buried both with and without Line, written by *John Milner*, Eſquire, one of the Juſtices appointed to inſpect into the Affair, and one who has the Good of Mankind at Heart as much as any Perſon whatſoever. This Gentleman related the Caſe to ſeveral others, who were met at a Coffee-houſe where I was preſent; and, as I thought it concerned the Public very much, I waited on him next Morning to requeſt he would permit me to lay it before the *Royal Society*; which he readily complied with, and gave me the incloſed Paper for that Purpoſe. I hope it will ſerve to prevent the Practice of burying them with Lime for the future, as this accidental Fact makes it more than probable, that malignant Particles may be ſent up,* and ſpread through the Air. I am,

SIR,

Yours, and the Society's,

N.B. The Cattle were buried
10 Feet deep with Lime.
8 Feet deep without Lime.

moſt obedient Servant,

James Parſons.

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* Quick Lime renders the animal Salts more volatile and pungent; as in the Proceſs of Spirit of *Sal ammoniac.* with Quuick-Lime. See *Wilſon*'s Chemiſtry, *Lond.* 1709. 8°. *p.* 332. *C. M.*

May 31, 1746.

MR. *Stallwood*, a Farmer at *Hackney*, informed the Juſtices, to whom the Care of the diſtemper'd Cattle was committed, that he had buried thirteen Cows very deep, with the Quantity of Lime appointed by the Juſtices; and, obſerving his Dogs to ſcratch and tear up the Ground with their Feet, to get at the Cows Fleſh (the Lime fermenting, and cauſing a Foam, as he called it, or ſtrong Scent of Meat to ariſe, which made the Dogs ſo eager to come at it) he beat them off ſeveral times: But the Dogs always returning as ſoon as he was gone, he, for ſome time, hired Boys to keep them off. But that he had buried ſeveral other Cows in another Place, with their Hides cut and ſlaſh'd, without any Lime (being ordered by the Juſtices ſo to do), and the Dogs never attempted to ſcratch or tear up the Ground there, though it lay open to them equally with the other Ground, and they often run over it.

John Milner.

N. B. Two Buſhels of Lime to each Cow was the Allowance.

XII.